

Claim Amendments

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claim 1 (currently amended) A ball joint comprising in combination:

(i) an elongated shaft having an upper end and a lower end and having a longitudinal axis running through said upper end and said lower end, said elongated shaft being threaded on the lower end;

(ii) a ball rigidly fixed and surmounted on the upper end of the elongated shaft, said ball, at the highest point opposite the ~~attachment~~ upper end of the elongated shaft, having a truncated face;

(iii) a retaining member having an upper surface and a lower end, said retaining member having a lubricating port located in the upper surface thereof, the lubricating port being openly connected to a duct, said duct providing a passageway for lubricants from the lubricating port to the truncated flat face of the ball, said retaining member being externally threaded on the retaining member lower end;

(iv) a housing having an outside surface, a middle portion, and a lower end, said housing being internally conformed at the lower end to seat the ball and provide pivotal movement about the longitudinal axis of the elongated shaft for the ball relative to the housing, said middle portion of the housing being internally threaded to receive the retaining member therein and said middle portion having a means for attaching the housing to a support arm of a suspension system;

(v) a fastening means for fastening the retaining member in the housing.

Claim 2 (withdrawn).

Claim 3 (withdrawn).

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Claim 4 (original) A ball joint as claimed in claim 1 wherein the means for
attaching the housing to the support arm of the suspension system is external threads on
the external surface of the middle portion of the housing.

Claim 5 (withdrawn).

Claim 6 (withdrawn).

Claim 7 (withdrawn).

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Claim 8 (new). A ball joint as claimed in claim 1 wherein the internally
conformed lower end of the housing comprises plural shallow channels for receiving
lubrication therein.

Claim List

Claim 1 (currently amended).

Claim 2 (withdrawn).

Claim 3 (withdrawn).

Claim 4 (original).

Claim 5 (withdrawn).

Claim 6 (withdrawn).

Claim 7 (withdrawn).

Claim 8 (new).